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XVI. *Descriptions of Nine new Species of the Genus Carex,  
Natives of the Himalaya Alps in Upper Nepal.* By Mr.  
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*Read December 2, 1823.*

AMONG a collection of specimens of Nepal plants, received by Mr. Lambert, some time ago, from Dr. Wallich, I was fortunate in meeting with nine species of the genus *Carex*, which, on a careful investigation, prove to be different from any hitherto recorded in the writings of botanists. These species appear to have a greater affinity to the European than to the American portion of the genus. They are only to be considered as a small proportion of the species yet to be discovered in the Nepalese alps: for, when the extensive range of lofty mountains, which extend along the northern frontier of Nepal, shall become better known to botanists, we have every reason to believe that a rich harvest of new species will be added, both to this and to the other genera of the family of *Cyperaceæ*. In the formation of the characters of the new species I am about to describe, and which I have now the honour of submitting to the Linnean Society, I have followed as a model the admirable Monograph of the British species of this genus, by a learned Vice-President of this Society, the Lord Bishop of Carlisle, and printed in the 2d volume of the Society's Transactions. His Lordship justly remarks, that a generic character is still wanting for this extensive and diversified genus; and I am further inclined to think

with him, that it will be found, perhaps, expedient to divide it into several genera: for *Carex*, as at present constituted, may rather be regarded as a tribe of the family *Cyperaceæ*, than as constituting a solitary genus.

\* *Spicâ compositâ, androgynâ.*

1. *C. nubigena*, digyna; spiculis sub-novenis ovatis confertis, arillis ovatis striatis rostratis bifidis margine denticulato-scabris, glumis ovatis acuminatis, culmo striato nudo infernè tereti, foliis involutis.

*Habitat* in summis alpibus Nepaliæ. *Wallich.* 4.

*Radix* fibrosa, cæspitosa. *Culmi* numerosi, erecti, palmares v. nunc ferè pedales, striati, glabri, nudi, fistulosi, lenti, infernè, e medio ad basin usque, teretes, apice ancipiti-compressi; altero latere convexo. *Folia* angustè linearia, acuta, glabra, pallidè viridia, culmis breviora, primò erecta, dein recurvata, subtùs striata, semilineam lata, apicem versus attenuata, margine asperè crebrèque denticulata. *Bractæ* angustè lineares, striatæ, apice attenuatæ et triquetræ, marginibus dorsoque scabræ, spicâ duplò triplòve longiores. *Vaginæ* nullæ. *Spica* composita, densa, ferè uncialis. *Spiculæ* ovatae, 6, 8, sæpiùs 9 confertæ, 2 lineas longæ. *Glumæ* ovatae, argenteæ, nitidæ, demùm rufescentes, dein apice decidente arillis breviores: *nervo* valido scabro, in acumen deciduum ultra squamam ipsam producto. *Arilli* subrotundo-ovati, rostrati, striati, suprà concaviusculi, subtùs convexi, apice bifidi et incurvi; *margine inferiore* alato ac inermi; *superiore* denticulis scabro.

The rounded naked culms of this species, and its involute leaves, which give it a distant resemblance to some species of *Scirpus*,

*Scirpus*, had suggested to me at first the trivial name of *Scirpoides*, as being applicable to it; but, as there is already another species to which this appellation has been given, I have proposed for it the name of *Nubigena*, in allusion to the elevated regions in which it grows.

2. *C. foliosa*, digyna; spicâ elongatâ, spiculis ovato-oblongis adpressis; inferioribus subremotis, arillis ellipticis brevè rostratis bifidis margine lævibus, glumis ovatis aristatis, culmo acutè triquetro scabro, foliis planis.

*Habitat* in Nepaliæ alpibus. *Wallich.* 4.

*Radix* fibrosa, densè cæspitosa. *Culmi* erecti, foliosi, acutè triquetri, solidi, foliis breviores: *angulis* scabris. *Folia* linearia, plana, spithamæa v. ferè pedalia, lineam lata, utrinque lætè viridia, margine carinâque infernè scabra, apicem versus attenuata, triquetra ac asperiùs denticulata. *Bracteæ* setaceæ, asperæ, spiculis sæpè multò longiores. *Vaginæ* nullæ. *Spica* composita, bipollicaris. *Spiculæ* numerosæ (12—16), ovato-oblongæ, adpressæ, sessiles. *Glumæ* ovatæ, cinereæ, scariosæ, nitidæ: *nervo* valido, viridi, ultra squamæ ipsius apicem protenso, aristamque constitente. *Arilli* elliptici, brevè rostrati, squamis breviores, margine læves, apice bifidi.

\*\* *Spicis distinctis, apice masculis.*

3. *C. lenta*, digyna; vaginis elongatis pedunculo brevioribus, spicis filiformibus cernuis apice masculis, glumis ellipticis acutis, arillis ovatis striatis pilosis rostratis.

*Habitat* in Nepaliæ alpibus. *Wallich.* 4.

*Radix* fibrosa. *Culmi* erecti, bipedales, graciles, trigoni, læves. *Folia* erecta, linearia, plana, pallidè viridia, glaucescentia,

cescentia, subtus laevia, supra striata ac scabra, culmis multò longiora, infernè conduplicata. *Bracteæ* angustè lineares, apice setaceæ, supra margineque scabré, sèpè spicis duplò longiores: *vaginis* elongatis, teretibus, striatis, laeviusculis, pedunculo duplò breviores, demùm ad basin usque hiantibus. *Pedunculi* longi, capillares, compressi, denticulato-scabri; *inferiores* bi- v. tri-pollicares. *Spicæ* plures (3—9), solitariæ, remotæ, breves, cylindraceæ, tenues, cernuæ, simplices v. subcompositæ, apice masculæ. *Glumæ* ellipticæ, acutæ, pallidè fuscæ, scariosæ, nervo viridi carinatæ. *Arilli* ovati, costati, compressiusculi, longè rostrati, pilis brevibus asperati, glumis multò longiores, apice bifurci.

4. *C. macrolepis*, digyna; *vaginis* elongatis pedunculo brevioribus, spicis strictis cylindraceis apice masculis, glumis lanceolatis longè cuspidatis, arillis ovatis rostratis scaberrimis costatis apice bipartitis.

*Habitat* in Nepaliæ alpibus. *Wallich.* 4.

*Radix* fibrosa. *Culmi* stricti, obtusè trigoni, glabri, virides, striati, spithamei v. pedales, foliosi. *Folia* linearia, plana, nervosa, vix lineam lata, glauca, supra margineque scabra, subtus laevia; *radicalia* culmis longiora. *Bracteæ* lineares, foliaceæ, longissimæ, supra scabré; inferioribus culmum æquantibus. *Vaginæ* elongatæ, tubulosæ, glabrae, sulcatæ, pedunculo duplò breviores. *Pedunculi* graciles, stricti, compressi, margine denticulati. *Spicæ* plures (5—6), solitariæ, distantes, cylindraceæ, strictæ, apice masculæ. *Glumæ* lanceolatae, margine niveæ, dorso virides, ad apicem nervo medio in aristam longissimam denticulato-scabram producto. *Arilli* ovati, compressiusculi, longè rostrati,

rostrati, costati, setis numerosis exiguis scaberrimi, glumis breviores, apice altè bifurci.

This species agrees in some respects with the *Carex hirta*; but this last belongs to a different section, having terminal, distinct, male spikes; the leaves are also green, and generally clothed with soft hairs; the fruit is hairy, with a shorter beak, constantly longer than the glumes, which are broader, more scariose, and terminated by a much shorter and less rigid point. In the male spikes the glumes are broad, ferruginous, and shortly pointed. The *Carex hirta* being trigynous is also an important differential mark.

5. *C. longipes*, digyna; vaginis elongatis pedunculo 4-plò brevioribus, spicis cylindraceis erectis apice masculis, glumis ellipticis aristatis, arillis ovatis costatis glabris rostratis.

*Habitat* in Nepaliæ alpibus. *Wallich.* 4.

*Radix* fibrosa. *Culmus* erectus, lèntus, sesquipédalis, obtusè trigonus, sulcatus, glaber, nitidus. *Folia* linearia, plana, viridia, striata, lineam lata, marginè scabra, culmis breviora, apice mucronata. *Bracteæ* foliaceæ, pedunculorum longitudine: *vaginis* elongatis, sulcatis, glabris, pollicibus v. ultrà. *Pedunculi* erecti, graciles, ancipiti-compressi, 4—7 pollices longi: *angulis* apicem versus scabris. *Spicæ* cylindraceæ, erectæ, pollicares, simplices, raro basi spiculâ unicâ laterali auctæ, apice semper terminatae spiculâ masculâ. *Glumæ* ellipticæ, pallidè fuscescentes, dorso virides, nervo medio in aristam longam scabré denticulatam producto. *Arilli* ovati, compressiusculi, aristis glumarum multò breviores, costis pluribus notati, virides, apice longiùs rostrati, bifurci, omni parte, nisi rostrum, glabri, parùm lucidi.

6. *C. seti-*

6. *C. setigera*, trigyna; vaginis elongatis sulcatis, spicis cylindraceis strictis apice masculis; terminalibus omnino masculis, glumis latè ellipticis aristatis, arillis ovalibus triquetris rostratis scabris.

*Habitat* in Nepaliæ alpibus. *Wallich.* 4.

*Radix* repens. *Culmi* erecti, pedales v. sesquipedales, foliosi, obtusè trigoni, infernè teretes, glabri, striati. *Folia* linearia, plana, rigida, subtùs carinata, glabra, suprà scabra, lætè viridia, apice mucronata; *radicalia* culmo longiora, basi sanguinea, et in vaginam longam cylindraceam, more *Caricis ampullacea*, rudimentis fibrosis connexam imbricata. *Bracteæ inferiores* longissimæ, foliis similes; *supremæ* setaceaæ: *vaginis* sesqui- v. bipollicaribus, glabris, sulcatis. *Pedunculi* stricti, ancipiti-compressi, striati, omnino, nisi apices, læves, *vaginis* bractearum longiores, ipsi infra medium propriâ *vaginulâ* instructi. *Spicæ* fœmineæ strictæ, plures (4—5), sesqui- v. bipollicares, cylindraceaæ, densæ, apice semper masculæ; *inferioribus* remotis, longius pedunculatis; *masculinis* terminalibus, paucis (2—3), sessilibus, strictis, fœmineis non absimilibus. *Glumæ* latè ellipticaæ, ferrugineaæ, nitidæ, margine scarioso argenteo, nervo lutescente ultra ipsius squamæ apicem in aristam setaceaem producto. *Arilli* ovales, triquetri, rostrati, scabri, apice emarginati, glumis breviores.

The habit of this species approaches near to *Carex ampullacea*; but the obtuse glumes and the smooth inflated fruit in that species will prevent their being confounded.

\*\*\* *Spicis sexu distinctis, masculis subsolitariis.*

7. *C. chlorostachys*, trigyna; vaginis nullis, spicis fœmineis cylindraceaes erectis pedunculatis; masculis solitariis, glumis ovato-

ovato-lanceolatis acuminatis apice scabris, arillis ventricosis costatis apice rostratis bifurcis glumâ longioribus.

*Habitat* in Nepaliae alpibus. *Wallich.* 4.

*Radix* fibrosa. *Culmi* erecti, pedales, acutè triquetri, sulcati, virides : *angulis* asperè serrulatis. *Folia* linearia, plana, utrinque viridia, nervosa, membranacea, acuminata, culmis sæpè longiora, erecta, 2 lineas lata, suprà margineque asperè denticulata. *Bracteæ* foliaceæ, latè lineares, virides, apicem culmi superantes : *vaginis* nullis. *Pedunculi* semiunciam longi v. ultrà, capillares, triquetri, scabri. *Spicæ fœmineæ* 4, erectæ, pollicem v. sesquipollicem longæ; cylindraceæ, crassiusculæ, omnino virentes ; *masculinæ* solitariæ, terminales, brevè pedicellataæ, unciales, filiformes. *Glumæ fœmineæ* ovato-lanceolatæ, acuminatæ, arillis breviores, virentes, apice scabrae ; *masculæ* ovato-oblongæ, argenteæ, mucronatæ, apice asperæ. *Arilli* ovati aut elliptici, ventricosi, longè rostrati, bifurci, virides, costati, læves.

The *Carex Pseudo-cyperus*, to which our plant is next akin, differs from it in the female spikes being drooping ; the glumes, both male and female, being terminated by a long rough spinulose point ; in the fruit being shorter than the glumes, more strongly ribbed, and deeply forked. The leaves are also rougher above, and the whole plant nearly twice the size.

8. *C. lenticularis*, digyna ; *vaginis* nullis, *spicis fœmineis* filiformibus pedunculatis patulis ; *masculis* solitariis pedunculatis, *glumis cuneatis* : acumine longo spinuloso, arillis cuneato-orbiculatis papilloso-micantibus compressis marginatis.

*Habitat* in Nepaliae alpibus. *Wallich.* 4.

*Radix fibrosa.* *Culmi* erecti, sesquipedales, acutè triquetri, striati, ferè omni parte lèves, glauci. *Folia linearia*, plana, glauca, spithamæa aut ultrà, lineam lata, lèvia, ad apicem carinâ margineque spinuloso-scabra. *Bracteæ foliaceæ*, culmi apicem longè excedentes: *vaginæ* nullæ. *Pedunculi* capillares, teretiusculi, parcè spinulosi, pollicem v. sesquipollicem longi. *Spicæ fœmineæ* 4, patulæ, filiformes, pedunculis longiores; *masculæ* solitariae, filiformes, erectæ, pedunculatæ, sesqui- v.  $2\frac{1}{2}$  pollices longæ. *Glumæ fœmineæ* cuneatæ, scariosæ, fuscae, dorso virides, apice acumine longo spinuloso terminatæ; *masculinæ* cuneato-oblongæ, scariosæ, fuscae, apice truncatæ, nervo medio ultra ipsius squamæ apicem in mucronem brevem scabrum producto. *Arilli* cuneato-orbiculati, compressi, mitissimi, papilloso-micantes, fuscescentes, adpressè imbricati, ore virente obtuso marginati, glumis breviores..

9. *C. alopecuroides*, trigyna; *vaginis* nullis, *spicis fœmineis* erectis cylindraceis subsessilibus: *masculis* solitariis, *glumis ellipticis* acuminatis supernè scabris, *arillis* lanceolatis compressis lèvibus apice truncatis emarginatis.

*Habitat* in Nepaliæ alpibus. *Wallich.* 4.

*Radix fibrosa.* *Culmi* stricti, pedales v. sesquipedales, acutè triquetri, striati: *angulis* alatis, lèvibus, apicem versus scabris. *Folia linearia*, mucronata, erecta, lètè viridia, culmos fere longitudine æquantia, lineam v. sæpiùs sesquilineam lata, striata, carinata, infernè inermia, versus apicem exasperata. *Bracteæ foliaceæ*, longissimæ, mucronatæ: *vaginæ* nullæ. *Spicæ fœmineæ*, Alopecuri v. Phlei quibusdam non parùm absimiles, erectæ, crassiusculæ, teretes, æquales, obtusæ, glauco-virentes, unciam sive nunc

nunc sesquiunciam longæ, brevissimè pedunculatæ; *masculæ* solitariæ, terminales, brevissimè pedunculatæ, fœmineis paulò breviores. *Glumæ fœmineæ* ellipticæ aut lan- ceolatæ, acuminatæ, virentes, margine albidae, acumine scabro; *masculinae* fœmineis omnino similes, nisi quod illæ sunt longiores, magis scariosæ ac pallentes. *Arilli* lan- ceolati, virides, adpressi, læves, glumis longiores, apice truncati et emarginati.